



# United States European Command

**LIEUTENANT GENERAL DAVID L. BENTON III**

**Chief of Staff**

Lieutenant General David Lee (Dan) Benton III is a native of Manchester, Georgia, and is the son of a career Army officer. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Field Artillery from the United States Military Academy in 1965. Over the span of the next three decades, General Benton has commanded soldiers in peace and in war, and served in positions of ever increasing responsibility in the United States and overseas.

During his career General Benton served in a wide range of command staff positions. Overseas positions include five in Europe, to include assignments as Assistant Division Commander of the 1st Armored Division, and two combat tours in Vietnam. In 1991, he served in Kuwait as Commander of Task Force Victory. General Benton also served in multiple assignments in Washington, including duty as Executive Officer to the Chief of Staff of the Army. He also served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Resource Management, United States Army Training and Doctrine Command. His most recent assignment was the Chief of Staff, United States Army Europe and Seventh Army.



Troop assignments for General Benton have included cannon battery command both in Europe and in Vietnam, direct support field artillery battalion command in Europe, and field artillery brigade command in the United States. He also served as Chief of Staff of the 2d Armored Division (Forward) in North Germany.

General Benton holds a Bachelor of Science degree from West Point and a Masters of Business Administration in Operations Research from Tulane University.

His military schooling includes the Field Artillery School, as a student and later as Director of the Gunnery Department and as Assistant Commandant; the Army Command and General Staff College; and the Army War College.

Lieutenant General Benton's awards and decorations include: the Legion of Merit (with five oak leaf clusters), the Bronze Star Medal (with two oak leaf clusters), Air Medal with numeral ten, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. He also wears the Army Staff Identification Badge, the Ranger Tab, and the Parachutist's Badge.

He is married to Nancy Gordon Benton, the daughter of a career field artillery officer.

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*Protocol Office, HQ USEUCOM, Patch Barracks, APO AE 09128*